

June 26, 1967

Mr. Henry W. Brosin  
Director  
Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic  
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine  
3811 O'Hara Street  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Hank:

Thank you for the comments in your letter of May 29, which was waiting for me upon my return from a trip in Europe.

I had an ulterior motive in sending you those columns, which was if you did find them interesting, to ask whether you would make a small effort to solicit the editor of your local paper so that they might possibly appear on a weekly basis. The columns are out on syndication from the Washington Post, but they do have a sufficiently specialized interest that personal contacts of this kind have been the only ways that I have succeeded in getting them placed in additional newspapers. Most editors like to regard themselves as somewhat more blunt and more stupid than the least literate of their readers.

The legal formalities of my divorce were completed on June 1, and thus ended what one of my friends aptly calls the "paranoid" phase of that process.

You may eventually take note of an announcement that I have joined the National Advisory Mental Health Council. This would hardly startle you less than it did me to receive an invitation, but after some reflection I eventually concluded that it was not such a ridiculous idea as it seemed at first sight. Some of the colleagues in your profession may be unfairly alarmed at an appointment to which they may give a doctrinaire interpretation which, I can assure anyone, would be the furthest removed from my own view of the responsibilities of that kind of advisory position.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

BROSIN